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Fall 2015

MUS 1407

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University of New Orleans

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MUS 1407 001 - Piano Class

Syllabus - Fall 2015

Instructor: Dr. Robin H. Williams (PAC 340)

Office phone: 504-280-6789

Email: rhwillia@uno.edu

Office hours: M/W/F 9:00-10:00; 2:00-3:00 and by appt.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. All course materials will be available on the website: **www.eNovativePiano.com**. In lieu of a textbook, you will be required to purchase a **subscription** which will give you access to the site for the entire semester. Many of the materials on this site are multimedia, but **you will also be expected to print out the “printable” documents and assignments and keep them organized in a notebook**. You will need to purchase your code no later than Monday, August 24th.
2. Other requirements - **Bring a pencil to class!**
3. **MOODLE:** This course utilizes Moodle Course Management Software. Through Moodle, we will post important documents such as the course syllabus, the course calendar and grades. However, daily assignments will be posted on the eNovativePiano ‘workbook.’

COURSE GOALS AND CONTENT

This is the **proficiency exam semester** and the final course in a three-semester sequence. This course continues to develop functional keyboard skills that will allow you to be more successful as a musician and educator. These skills include harmonization, sight reading, score reading, ensemble performance, keyboard theory, accompanying, scales and arpeggios, chord facility, transposition, and improvisation. This course expects a higher level of independent learning than the piano class component in MUS 1102. For your final exam you will be expected to prepare most of these skills with minimal help from your instructor.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon satisfactory completion of the course you will be able to:

- perform piano works at the intermediate level
- harmonize melodies using primary and secondary chords in varying accompaniment patterns
- sight read fluently enough to accompany easier vocal and instrumental pieces
- play keyboard transpositions as applied to various instruments
- play scales and arpeggios in all major and minor keys two octaves hands together
- play simple improvisations and melodies by ear as assigned

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance: Attendance is a highly important part of this course. Eight unexcused absences will result in the grade of “F.” Excused absences include only medical reasons for which you will need a doctor’s excuse, or official university functions that conflict with the class time.

If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to get the assigned work from Moodle and be prepared by the next class period. If you are absent from class on a quiz day you will receive a zero.

Practice: Daily practice of one hour is necessary. *You cannot ‘cram’ this course.* Practice rooms are located on the second floor of this building. If you do not have a practice room key please go to the main Music Office (PAC 331) and request one.

Grades: Your final grade takes into account test scores, class participation, and group activities. There will be **three proficiency tests** and a **final proficiency exam**. Percentage values are as follows:

Proficiency 1 = 20%
Proficiency 2 = 20%
Proficiency 3 = 20%
Final Proficiency Exam = 25%
Class Participation = 15%
TOTAL = 100%

Proficiency Tests 1–3 (60%): Each of these three proficiency exams will consist of live performances testing a variety of skill areas. The criteria for grading include: number of note errors, number of rhythmic errors, appropriate tempos, accurate fingerings, continuity in performance, and musicality. The tests will be timed and you will only receive points for the portions of the test which are completed during the assigned time period.

Final Proficiency Exam (25%): This final proficiency exam will be administered during the last week of class by individual appointment. **You MUST pass all skill areas in this final proficiency exam with a “C” to complete this course.** If you do not succeed with a “C” in two skill areas, you will be allowed another attempt during the final exam week. However, the final grade for that area will be an average of the two attempts. **If you do not earn a “C” in more than two skill areas, you will automatically get an “F” for this course.** In addition, during the scheduled final class recital in the Recital Hall, you will be expected to perform one solo piano piece and accompany one piece with either a singer or an instrumentalist as approved by the instructor.

No tests will be made up except in a dire emergency, and only if I am notified *before* the class in which the test is given. You may contact me by email, or leave a message with the Music Office (280-6381) or on my voice mail (280-6789) *before* the class hour.

Class Participation (15%): This grade includes any homework assignments due in class. These assignments will include written work as well as recorded or live performances. This grade may also include “pop” quizzes at the instructor’s discretion. Please stay current with all assignments. If you are asked to perform some part of the assignment in class you will be graded on that performance.

Communication: assignments, announcements, and grades: It is your responsibility to check Moodle and the eNovativePiano message boards to stay informed of class assignments prior to every class.

COURSE ASSISTANCE: If you need tutoring or any extra help, the instructor will work with you individually or will find an assistant to help you. Let me know if you need assistance.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

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| August 18 | Schedule adjustment period ends 11:59 pm without penalty |
| August 19 | Schedule Adjustment period starts with \$50 penalty per day |
| August 25 | Final date to add/drop courses and receive a 100% refund, minus nonrefundable fees; final date to change from credit to audit |
| August 29 | Last day for textbook refunds |
| Sept. 7 | Labor Day Holiday |
| Sept. 9 | Final date to drop a course and not have a “W” recorded |
| Sept. 16 | Final date to receive 50% refund |
| Sept. 25 | Last day to apply for December commencement |

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| Oct. 1 | Extended Payment Plan Option (EPPO) payments due |
| Oct. 5-9 | Mid semester exam period |
| Oct. 14 | Final Date to drop classes or resign from the university (11:59pm) |
| Oct. 30 | Spring Registration Begins |
| Nov. 26-27 | Thanksgiving Break |
| Dec. 4 | Last day of classes |
| Dec. 7-11 | Final examinations |
| Dec. 18 | Commencement |

Fall Semester Holidays

Labor Day09/07/2015

Mid-semester break 10/15-10/16/2015

Thanksgiving 11/26-11/27/2015

WITHDRAWAL POLICY – Undergraduate only

Students are responsible for initiating action to resign from the University (withdraw from all courses) or from a course on or before dates indicated in the current Important dates calendar.

Students who fail to resign by the published final date for such action will be retained on the class rolls even though they may be absent for the remainder of the semester and be graded as if they were in attendance. Failure to attend classes does not constitute a resignation. Check the dates on the Registrar's website, <http://www.registrar.uno.edu>. Please consult The Bulletin for charges associated with dropping and adding courses.

INCOMPLETE POLICY – Undergraduate only

The grade of I means *incomplete* and is given for work of passing quality but which, because of circumstances beyond the student's control, is not complete. The issuance of the grade of I is at the discretion of the faculty member teaching the course. For all graduate and undergraduate students, a grade of I becomes a grade of F if it is not converted before the deadline for adding courses for credit (as printed in the Important Dates Calendar) of the next regular semester including summer semester.

REPEAT POLICY

When a student is permitted to repeat a course for credit, the last grade earned shall be the one which determines course acceptability for degree credit. A student who has earned a C or better in a course may not repeat that course unless, (1) the catalog description indicates that the course may be repeated for credit, or (2) the student's Dean gives prior approval for documented extenuating circumstances.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. It includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. For further information, refer to the UNO Judicial Code available online at: <http://studentaffairs.uno.edu/pdfs/StudentCode.pdf>

DISABILITY NOTICE

Students with disabilities and/or special needs must notify the instructor before the end of the first day of classes. It is also the responsibility of the student to register with the Office of Disability Services. Information is available at: ods.uno.edu.